

**In the Abstract:**

*Following the claims, please add the abstract as follows:*

**--Abstract of the Disclosure**

The invention relates to a printing device for printing sheet elements (1) that are serially fed to the printing device, in particular product labels made of temperature-sensitive paper or paper substitute materials, comprising a feed device for feeding the sheet elements to a print head which acts on the sheet element, wherein the print head comprises a thermal slat (3) which is supported flexibly by a carrier device (8) such that between the thermal slat (3) and the deflection device (4) a counterpressure surface is formed at a predefined surface pressure on the sheet element (1) to be printed. The thermal slat (3) is associated with an adaptor means (7) that is exchangeable together with the thermal slat (3).

**Fig. 1 is intended for publication.--**

**In the Figures:**

*Please amend the figures to reverse the figure numbers of Figures 1 and 2 as per the enclosed Replacement Sheet.*